

The Chronicle



Vol. 15 No. 12

Monday, November 18, 1996

Exploring the racial attitudes of the Region

BY SCOTT THOMPSON
Staff Writer

Professor Theresa Carilli presented the results of a year-long study of racism in the Calumet Region Thursday. After discussing the methodology and results of her study, she answered questions from a racially diverse audience.

Carilli began her project over a year ago with the intention of discovering the roots of, and perhaps a solution for racism in the area. The study was conducted in conjunction with the Times newspaper. Two thousand qualitative surveys were sent to residents, 1,000 to Times subscribers and 1,000 to non-subscribers.

Questions such as, "Describe your feelings for other racial groups" and "Does your family have the same feelings about other groups" were used to attempt to understand the racial attitudes in the area. The responses were grouped together by Carilli and her assistant, and analyzed.

Despite her attempt at a random sample of citizens, Carilli's respondents were 82

percent white and only 11 percent black. These figures are evident in the feedback gathered. One respondent replied, "Blacks take advantage of their color to get things and plead racism when things do not go their way."

Carilli said those type of comments led her to believe that her work has only begun. She said, the racial attitudes in the Calumet Region are far from perfect, and seem to be worsening every moment.

"Impressions of individuals from ethnic groups other than one's own may be formed or changed depending on one's experiences," said Carilli. She said she feels that these experiences must occur in a social atmosphere away from the work environment.

Carilli said she feels that the solution rests in the hands of the parents. Her results show that the public is demanding a required multicultural class, yet she stated that bigotry is not learned in school, and therefore, cannot be removed without the assistance of the parents.

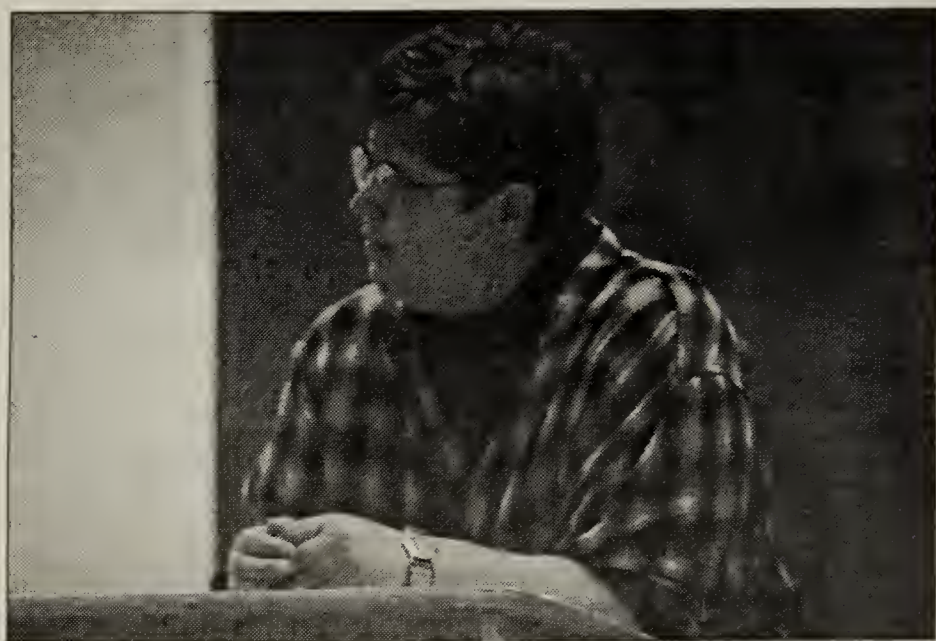


Photo by Cynthia Govea

Professor Theresa Carilli discusses the findings of her year-long study of racism.

Student apathy results in poor turnouts for speakers

Chronicle Staff story

Purdue Calumet Green Coalition was disappointed with the turnout for their guest speaker MinNefer J. Memahkem from the Grand Cal Task Force last Wednesday in C-100. Memahkem spoke about pollution prevention and recycling to a small group of seven listeners. Green Coalition president Eric Hoffman was "disappointed with the turnout." The group had posted flyers a week in advance of the speaker and had a clip in the paper announcing the speaker. Hoffman commented, "The flyers don't seem to be drawing people."

Members of the Green Coalition questioned why it is that the two speakers they have hosted, Memahkem, and a month previous, Michelle Nanni from the Hoosier Environmental Council, have drawn crowds of no greater than 10 to 12 listeners. Green Coalition treasurer Susan Kerosky

comments, "The campus turnout can be seen as a microcosm of the area (Calumet Region) or on a larger scale, of our country. People in general don't get excited about environmental issues unless it effects them directly."

Green Coalition Vice President Ginger LaBelle said, "We know that some people are unable to participate due to demanding schedules, but scheduling demands don't keep the 30 or so people away from watching 'Baywatch' at 9 a.m. or 'Days of Our Lives' at noon."

"We have scheduled our next speaker, Bowden Quinn, in room G-7b because the noise level in C-100 made communication difficult. We were hesitant to schedule our speakers in a less accessible place because the student body as a whole is too apathetic to take advantage of our speakers even when they are easily accessible."

Study says washing hands pays

BY SHARON STEWART
Staff Writer

Washed your hands lately? As many three to five-year-olds have recently learned washing properly and frequently can cut down on spreading illnesses.

A recent study conducted by Joan Niffenegger, Ph.D., assistant professor of Early Childhood Development at Purdue University Calumet, focused on the issue of hand washing and the spread of infectious disease. The study was held during cold and flu season, January through March of 1994 and 1995, and revealed a drop in the incidence of illness when the participants

washed their hands properly.

The test group that performed frequent hand washing from PUC Riley Child Center had an 18.9 percent rate of colds compared to 27.8 percent within the control group.

Niffenegger said she was concerned for the health of children, especially infants in day care centers. The more information she gathered from surveys filled out by staffers at the centers the more she felt the lack of knowledge about contagious diseases and their spread.

Niffenegger said there are state

See Wash, Page 3

How they did it

- Washing hands upon arrival at the center.
- Washing for 10-15 seconds, using warm, soapy running water.
- Rinsing and drying hands completely.
- Sneezing and coughing into elbows, but if children did sneeze into hands to wash immediately.
- Encouraging parents to follow up on the same practices of home.
- Learning songs and listening to tapes provided courtesy of the Soap and Detergent Association.

Panel looks at media, politics and bias

Pi Sigma Alpha hosts forum on impact of media on the election.

BY DEDEE LUDWIG
Staff Writer

Did the media give the public a rational and unbiased look at the 1996 election? That was one of the many questions five panelists attacked in a discussion in Alumni Hall Thursday.

Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society, hosted the panel in an attempt to evaluate the impact the media had on the 1996 presiden-

tial election. The panel included: John Dodge of the Chicago Sun Times, Peter Bloom of the Post Tribune, Sally Vornhagen of the Portage Times, Ed Repay of the Hammond City Council, and Dr. Dan Dunn, Professor of Communication at Purdue University Calumet. Professor Maurice Eisenstein mediated the discussion.

The five panelists represented a wide array of professions and gave outlooks from the politician and the journalists point of view.

The question that caused a great amount of

See Forum, Page 3

What a tangled Web University division weaves

BY JENNIFER CARSON
Staff writer

Students in the University Division's Developmental Program are preparing themselves for the technology of tomorrow. With the encouragement of their instructors, they are exploring the internet and finding it to be an invaluable source of information.

"From an educational standpoint, I see this as significant because it provides new arenas for students to gather information

and learn," said Lee Rademacher, University Division professor and advisor.

Rademacher first introduced the internet as an alternative to library research last semester. Students registered in GNS 103, "Introduction to Higher Education," are now working on individual career research projects based primarily on information taken from the World Wide Web.

Through the Web, they can access the Occupational Outlook

Handbook, published by the Bureau of Labor and Statistics. The handbook provides extensive data concerning job availability, income, and qualifications. Although it is also available at the Career Development and Placement Center, the web version contains more in-depth and current information.

In addition to showing their students how to use the internet as a research tool, several professors

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The Lakers volleyball team advanced to the Great Lakes Regional in the NAIA tournament last weekend. At right, Tanya Popiela goes up for the kill against IIT.

See related article page 6



Sports

Lady Lakers get ready for season
See page 7

Entertainment

Mel Gibson stars in 'Ransom'

See page



ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

Introducing... 2 electronic message boards

As The Chronicle pointed out in a September editorial, those tacky bed sheets that used to hang periodically from the exterior of the Student Faculty Library Center to announce upcoming student activities have given way to a high tech alternative.

Two electronic message boards have been erected—one on the south exterior of the SFLC, and the other on the north exterior of the Gyte annex.

These message boards are intended to communicate in a centralized, effective, efficient and aesthetic manner announcements of campus activity, interest and urgency.

The reason it's taken until now to introduce these message boards officially to the campus community is to allow first for the development of a policy for utilizing and accessing them. That policy has been developed and is conveyed below.

These message boards are coordinated through the Office of Evening Administration and Conference Operations (C-120/Ext. 2762).

Policy for Utilizing Outdoor Electronic Message Boards Purpose

Announcements displayed on these boards should:

- pertain to students (e.g., activities/events by campus organizations to which the campus community is invited to attend; enrollment/registration, fee payment, and financial aid-related; other misc. programs, activities and initiatives);
- provide emergency/urgent campus advisories;
- welcome guests/visitors who are on campus for special events/programs;
- provide other messages of interest and significance to the campus community.

Who can place a message

Messages submitted by University offices, departments or approved student organizations will be considered for display on the message boards.

Preparing a message

* **Student Organizations:** Messages by student organizations must be recorded on an Electronic Message Board Form (EMB Form 1) and submitted for approval to the Office of Student Activities. After receiving approval, the messages will be forwarded to the Office of Evening Administration and Conference Operations for loading onto the message board computer.

* **Campus Offices:** Messages by campus offices must be recorded on an Electronic Message Board Form (EMB Form 1) and forwarded to the Office of Evening Administration and Conference Operations for loading onto the message board computer.

* **Other messages:** Messages of urgency that relate to the general campus community should be transmitted to the Office of Evening Administration and Conference Operations for immediate message board posting.

* * * * *

An Office of Evening Administration and Conference Operations staff member, trained in Electronic Message Board technology, will design and load messages onto the message board.

Appropriateness of Message

For messages to be displayed on the Electronic Message Board, their nature must be consistent with university standards. Postings that by their nature infringe on the rights of individuals, or promote activities, causes, or initiatives prohibited by university regulations, and/or local, state or federal laws are not permitted.

Message Posting Schedule

Messages will be loaded onto the Electronic Message Board and updated at least once a week. To assure they are posted in a timely fashion, messages must be received by the Office of Evening Administration and Conference Operations at least one week prior to the desired posting date. Outdated messages will be removed as appropriate.

At a glance student organizations

The Chronicle needs you

The Chronicle is accepting applications for the following hourly paid positions for the spring semester; editor-in-chief, managing editor, advertising manager, and production manager. Production manager should have some experience with Quark Xpress and using a scanner. Additional openings include sports editor, copy editor and opinion page editor. Reporters are also urged to apply.

Filled positions will be announced before the end of the fall semester. For more information, stop at C-344H, between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday to pick up an application, or leave a message at 989-2547, 2548, 2039 for Dave Fanno, advisor, or Gregg Leonard, editor-in-chief.

Clothing drive

The Society of Women Engineers will sponsor a clothing drive on Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. in the north-east parking lot. Proceeds of the clothing drive will go to ARK, the shelter for homeless women and their children. For more information, please contact Professor Chenn Zhou at (219) 989-2472 or Kelly Dallas at (219) 884-4720.

Triangle of friends host forum with PFLAG

Triangle of Friends, the faculty and student support group for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and gay-friendly people, will be hosting a forum featuring representatives from Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. The forum will be Tuesday, Nov. 19, at 2 p.m. in C-321 of the library building. This forum is open to the public.

around campus

Sports card show helps PUC athletics

Grand Slam Promotions will sponsor a Sports Card and Comic Book show to benefit athletic scholarships for Purdue University Calumet in the K-Building gymnasium Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Star Trek convention

PUC athletes will be selling tickets beginning this week in the SFLC lobby and in the K-Building for a Star Trek Convention, Dec. 7 in the gymnasium from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for the general public and \$8 for PUC students. Star Trek film stars Dennis Tracy and Tracee Lee Cocco will attend the convention. A Star Trek movie marathon begins this week in C-100. "Star Trek II: The Wrath of Kahn" will begin at noon Monday, and "Star Trek III: In Search of Spock" will begin at 4 p.m. "Star Trek IV: The

Voyage Home" will be shown at noon Wednesday and "Star Trek VII: Generations" will begin at 4 p.m. For additional information, contact Rich at 989-2550.

Wellness workshop

Wellness trainer Christine Jensen will lead a workshop titled "Healthy Holidays; Making Choices" Wednesday from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in O-333. This workshop discusses strategies for making choices toward healthier eating patterns during the holidays. This workshop offers steps to prepare healthy recipes for parties, increase your variety of food choices, and understand how food choices can help you enjoy healthy holidays.

To register for this class, reply via e-mail to Mary Lu Plon, or contact Personnel Services, x2251.

— Compiled by Chronicle staff from press releases and other sources



Green Coalition speaker

The Purdue Calumet Green Coalition will host Bowen Quinn, of the Grand Calumet Task Force, who will speak on the topic of environmental justice. The event will take place Tuesday, Nov. 19, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Gyte room 7B.

The Grand Calumet Task Force is a local environmental organization based in Whiting.

The Green Coalition is a new environmental organization on campus and meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday from noon to 2 p.m. in the library study area.

The Chronicle

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GNS

Continued from page 1

in the Developmental Program are requiring students to complete assignments through e-mail.

Class journals, for example, are no longer in the form of badly organized, hard to read notebooks. Instead, all entries are simply sent via e-mail. Unfortunately, many professors and students find the e-mail system at Purdue difficult to operate. Some have described it as "archaic and primitive." Others are unsure how to log on at all.

"It is necessary to find a better system for Purdue. People need to know how to use a computer and communicate through it. The system we have now is just too difficult to learn," Rademacher said.

Professor Charlotte Rakich agrees that the system needs improvement, however she encourages students to use it as much as

possible. She found that students who would normally be disinclined when it comes to school work seem to enjoy working on e-mail and internet more than anyone. This is most likely due to the opening of communication lines and inviting the student to explore the once intimidating computer, according to Rakich.

Even in today's world of advanced and user-friendly computer systems, it is not uncommon to find people who are hesitant to explore cyber-space in fear that they could push a wrong button and mess up the whole system, Rademacher said.

In GNS 103, students are actually encouraged to make mistakes. The class focuses on process education, which is the idea that students have the ability to teach themselves. "Students learn to manipulate the computer by mak-

ing mistakes and starting over," said Rademacher.

Jasmine Rodriguez, a first-year student at Purdue, is now an expert on computer manipulation. Before this semester, the only computer experience she had was with a word processor. Now she can do anything from gathering information on a prospective career to ordering concert tickets for her favorite band and even choosing her own seat.

"I am very impressed with all the things available on the internet. Now that I'm not intimidated any longer, I can access anything. I feel much more comfortable," said Rodriguez.

As for looking ahead, Rademacher hopes to create a paperless class by next semester. The possibility exists that one day students could log onto their classes from home.

Forum

Continued from page 1

discussion was about the media's bias in the election. Does the public really have an accurate view of the election or is it an unfair representation of the candidates?

Dunn said he believed the media does have some bias in the election, and what the public sees and hears is what the media filters through. What the public gets is what the media wants it to receive.

Repay agreed with Dunn. "Be it conservative or be it liberal, it depends on the ownership of the paper," said Repay.

Wash

Continued from page 1

regulations about sanitary hygiene at day care facilities and that all the participating centers were utilizing the state guidelines.

Through this study and research she has now developed a curriculum for teaching the staff and preschool age children how and why they should wash their hands properly.

Some key components of her program at PUC Riley Child Center are:

- Washing hands upon arrival at the center.

- Washing for 10-15 seconds, using warm, soapy running water.

- Rinsing and drying hands completely.

- Sneezing and coughing into elbows, but if children did sneeze into hands to wash immediately.

This was argued by the three journalists. "I do not feel the media is biased. On newspapers you see stories, on opinion pages you see opinions," said Vornhagen. "I would never stop a story because of my opinions."

Even with all the media coverage, the 1996 election had a poor voter turnout. The panelists tried to project why.

"A 49 percent turnout in a presidential election is pretty scary," Dunn said. "Most people do not have the time to thoroughly review the concepts on a given issue. People are busy and they don't take the time."

- Encouraging parents to follow up on the same practices at home.

- Learning songs and listening to tapes provided courtesy of the Soap and Detergent Association.

"Kids love to play with water," Niffenegger said. This extra washing allows the children to learn while having fun, according to Niffenegger. She said she was very impressed with the amount of cooperation she received from the parents of the participants.

Parents were asked to return weekly progress reports for data. Niffenegger attributes that cooperation to having many parents who are attending PUC and are familiar with the importance of research and survey processes.

Niffenegger now offers this curriculum to other child care centers free of charge.

Scholar says the media less biased than ever

MINNEAPOLIS (CPS) — In mid-July Bob Dole criticized NBC's "Today Show" host Katie Couric as being too liberal because she repeatedly questioned him about campaign funds he received from the tobacco industry.

Politicians' alleging that the media is biased in favor of their opponents' parties is not a new phenomenon. But Everett Dennis, senior vice president of the nonpartisan Freedom Forum, said the media are neither liberal nor conservative in their coverage of political news.

Reporters are more liberal than the general public, and they are more likely to favor Democrats over

Republicans," he said. "This is not exactly riveting information." Dennis earned his doctorate in journalism at the University of Minnesota and is the author or co-author of 30 books on the media.

Dennis said the press, if it wants to survive and prosper, will not become partisan, as it was in the past.

In the formative years of the country the press was blatantly partisan, he said. Several politicians owned their own newspapers or were given free reign of editorial content by owners who supported candidates' positions. This was well known at the time, however, because people used newspapers

as a forum for political debate, rather than to obtain straight facts about recent events."

Dennis said. "That partisan stance disappeared long ago. Market forces and commercialism are among the reasons."

People must consider the various forms of media before they conclude there is a liberal bias in news, Dennis said. "The most influential columnists these days are mostly moderate or to the right of center," he said.

People bend over backwards to show no bias," Babcock said. "Some of President Clinton's toughest critics are The liberal New York Times and Washington Post."

Know news? Call the Chronicle - 989-2548

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MONDAY

NOV. 18

THRU

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NOV. 20

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY-CALUMET

CAMPUS SHOP

SFLC Building

Needed: someone to bring order to chaos

From the
Editor's desk



As my time as Editor-in-Chief draws to a close, I can't help but be disappointed. Hopes and goals came smashing into the face of reality. Management skills I hoped to gain never were obtained. The staff I envisioned to support the weekly 'adventure' of this paper never came together. I shirked some of my duties as the head of this enterprise called The Chronicle.

Not all is lost. I believe I have brought some change to The Chronicle. Upgrades in technology, a new, consistent design, more campus news. People have said that the paper looks the best it ever has.

Which brings me full circle. I had started with the Chronicle in Spring of '95 as production manager with just some desktop publishing skills and a desire to learn the newspaper business. I had the notion that I could learn more about design, and the news media has always interested me. I thought I could make the Chronicle look better.

I took the Editor-in-Chief position for the spring of '96 semester with some reservations. I inherited a sinking ship, and was determined to make it float again. I was unsure of my abilities as to managing the paper, but I was eager and willing to learn.

That is all that is needed to join the Chronicle. Eagerness. Willing. Learning. You learn by doing. Self-starters are encouraged to apply. And nowhere on this campus do you have the freedom to do your own thing.

Students interested in newspaper media are encouraged to join the Chronicle. Communication majors would be well served by taking a staff position. Ideally, the Editor-in-Chief would be filled by an intern within the communications department, but then that would exclude a person such as myself, a mathematics major.

Getting all the parts to work together smoothly is the tricky part of managing any enterprise. With the Chronicle, one week we would have a lot of stories, and no ads. Then no stories and plenty of ads. Or no pictures. The Chronicle needs a person who can manage the many aspects of putting the paper together.

My time with the Chronicle has been enlightening. It has changed my career direction. If PUC only had a journalism degree, I would've changed my degree objective also.

I had a good time as the leader of The Chronicle. I hope the other members of the staff did also. If I stepped on some toes in the process of muddling my way through things, I'm sorry.

As the Chronicle looks to the future — Our fifteenth year as the Chronicle — things look good. An enthusiastic staff of new writers, advertising representatives, photographers and others. The Chronicle needs qualified and willing people to lead them into the next year. If you read this far, maybe it could be you. Just join the Chronicle.

The Chronicle Editorial Policy

The views expressed in the commentaries and Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect the views of The Chronicle or Purdue University Calumet. The Chronicle is not an official publication of Purdue University Calumet.

The Chronicle welcomes reader input. Letters and commentaries must include the author's name, class standing or other affiliation and a telephone number for verification. Anonymous letters and commentaries will be considered for publication only if accompanied with the aforementioned specifications.

All materials submitted to The Chronicle become the property of The Chronicle. All material must be typed (double spaced) or saved on a 3.5" DOS format disk. The Chronicle reserves the right to edit for clarity, accuracy, space and news style. Copy deadline is noon the Wednesday before publication.



Talking the talk, but not walking the walk

Politician's time to put up or shut up commentary by Scott Gonzales



Now that the hundred political ads we were bombarded with during the waning hours of election day are over, now that we no longer have to listen to the empty promises of our politicians because the election is over, it's time to see if any of them heard any words we said.

It's far too easy for politicians to get lost in issues these days, in fact many of them either avoid many issues or take the high road and gallantly answer these issues with the popular opinion. For example, what politician in his right mind wouldn't be in agreement with child protection, or more police protection for the community at large. These are issues which get battered about and agreed upon on the front pages of every newspaper every morning, but in reality does little to help the situation.

Beginning in January, it will be time for those we voted into office some three weeks ago to finally get to work and hammer out real issues, like education and its funding. In a day and age when some politicians want to do away with The Department of Education altogether, it's easy to see why we need help in this department.

These newly elected officials now have the task of finding funds for our

education needs statewide as well as nationally. Locally, funding of some school resources was to come from those gambling boats docked right off our great lake of Michigan. With the boats reporting stratospheric monies coming into the gambling coffers it seems that the gambling business is doing quite well. But are our schools seeing any of these monies filtering, or trickling their way?

Property taxes also seem to be another easy fix government has for funding school systems. The only problem with this situation is that so many fat cats have their paws in the monetary pie that it usually leaves only the crumbs and sloppy seconds for the running and funding of schools.

It's easy for a politician to straddle the middle of the road, most make it an art to do so. But what does that get us in the end, the same old minds who never really attack the problem and only delay any real solutions to school systems. In the end some schools will be closed, some more students will be bussed to other districts around the city, and the problem of school funding keeps ebbing forward.

Even here at Purdue Calumet, our little neck of the woods sees tuition

going up every year, technical fees added onto already inflated bills of sale, and now talk of instituting a parking fee for students who don't even have cars is in the works. There has got to be a better way!

The government has to increase monetary help for students if colleges are going to continue to raise tuition at such dramatic rates. While tuition is going up, Pell Grants are staying the same, student loans are taking longer to receive, and fee upon fee is being leveled on the unsuspecting student. Why can't tuition be frozen for a year or two? Why can't there be real government obligations to aid the student in need?

Some of these ideas may not be practical and reality based but we need educational help in the funding regime. New ideas are what we need, not more fees. Students are paying for enough these days, and I haven't even tackled the prices of books yet!

All I'm saying is that there has got to be a better way of looking at this situation, and since politicians are oh so good at talking the talk, it's time for many of them to also walk that educational walk. The time has come.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,
For "PUC People in charge of the new building" shame on you! I have always seen how PUC always protects the poor pedestrians around campus.

Sidewalks everywhere always cleaned and free of ice, special walkways made during the first stages of construction of the founders plaza, space dividers in the parking lot behind the C-building so that we may walk to the K-building. All that and more. Yet is the first stages of blocking off the parking between the Anderson and the Potter... WHERE IS THE PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY!!!!!!!!!!!!

I have to walk to the Anderson on every other day (M,W,F) and have to tough it out like many other students dodging cars! Sure I know that the cars are in there right to come thru the parking lot but hey, where are we suppose to walk! Winter is coming, I mean winter is here! What is going to happen when a car by accident slides on the parking lot and takes out several students! Is that when somebody is going to take action!

I'm ashamed of you! I hope that in the not so distant

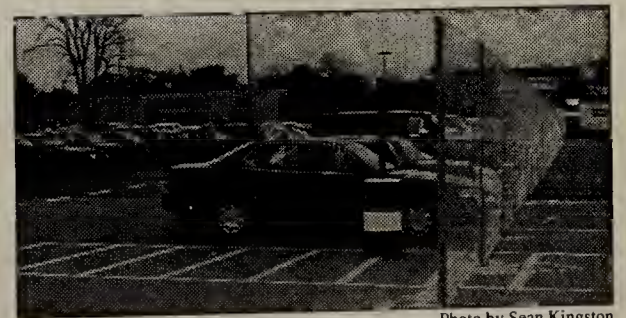


Photo by Sean Kingston

Cars are parked in the walkway space to the Anderson building. The University is taking steps to clear the walkway.

future I may walk safely to the Anderson by means of a pedestrian walkway. Now all I have to do is tough it out with that COLD weather!

Ahui Herrera
ENGR. Student

RANSOM

Movie plays out every parent's nightmare

Every parent dreads the thought of someone kidnapping their child right from under their noses. You turn away from your child for a second and

and someone grabs them from you forever. It's a scary situation which happens all too often in this day and age. This is the concept which surrounds the events of Ron Howard's newest film "Ransom."

Ransom

★★★★

A Touchstone release

Starring
Mel Gibson
Rene Russo
Gary Sinise
Delroy Lindo

Directed by
Ron Howard

Reviewed by
Scott Gonzales

Mel Gibson plays Tom Mullen, airline owner and high-powered businessman. During a charity event sponsored by his wife, Kate (Rene Russo), their son, Sean, gets nabbed by a trio of thugs in central park. The gang takes Sean and within hours calls Mullen with their list of demands, namely \$2 million.

The leader of the kidnappers does have an ace up his sleeve in the knowledge that when placed in this sort of moral situation, Mullen will pay to get out of trouble. You see, he's done it before. Mullen had paid off a union a couple years

ago to avert his business from going bankrupt. Though being investigated by the FBI for this offense, the leader has a sixth sense which tells him that Mullen is hiding something. He knows Mullen will pay!

Panic permeates the central park penthouse which becomes filled with FBI agents, phone lines, computers, tracking devices, and other high tech mechanisms. Delroy Lindo, of "Clockers" and "Get Shorty" fame, plays FBI agent Lonnie Hawkins who advises the Mullens' as to their every move. He steers Tom and Kate as to how to approach this dire situation, at times pitting one against the other.

As the kidnapping gets more complex, Detective Jimmy Shaker appears played with ruthless determination by Gary Sinise. The scenes involving Sinise and Gibson are filled with menacing complexity which keeps the audience on the edge of their seats. You can feel the tension in every scene which these two actors are in and it's easy to see that they are at the top of their game.

The supporting cast is superlative in this film. Delroy Lindo proved himself one great actor in Spike Lee's "Clockers," and Barry Levinson's "Get Shorty" last year and shows no sign of slowing down.

Rene Russo is at bat again with Mel Gibson. These two showed



Photo courtesy of Touchstone Pictures

Mel Gibson stars as Tom Mullen, an airline owner, whose child is kidnapped in the psychological thriller, 'Ransom.'

that they had chemistry on the big screen last time they worked together in "Lethal Weapon III," and they don't fail us this time either.

Another good character was Marris Conner, played by Lili Taylor, who won critical acclaim in this year's film "I Shot Andy Warhol."

Once again Ron Howard does a fantastic job behind the camera with this tense tale of seizure and parental terror. Howard is creating a great list of films under his belt and making himself one of the best American directors there is working today. "Backdraft," "Parenthood," "Night Shift," and

last years Award winning "Apollo 13" are reminders of how good Howard can be as a director, and he doesn't fail us this time around with "Ransom."

Howard keeps the tension tight, the action surprising, and the plot moving. The last half hour of this film is as tense and dangerous as the sharp edge of a razor blade. Howard has taken a darker, more tragic film to shoot this go round. This film has more of a dramatic theme than last year's uplifting "Apollo 13." Howard seems to be heading for a more realistic theme and course in his films, pushing his own personal envelope, and still remains entertaining while pursu-

ing these personal bests.

Gibson, though, sells the whole film. He runs the gamut of emotions with seamless authentic believability. He brings the intensity of his "Lethal Weapon" films, the charm of "Maverick," and the madness of the "Road Warrior" to "Ransom." Gibson is one of the best actors, comedic and dramatic, working these days in film. He makes the art of acting look far too easy for his own good, but then again he is Mel Gibson!

"Ransom" is a thriller that will keep you on the edge of your seat, and in doing so becomes one of the best films of this year.

Wandering the musical galaxies for rap's newest star

BY SCOTT GONZALES
Entertainment Editor

One local artist making his way through rap's ever growing streets is Tymond Records, Ray-I-dah. Ray-I-dah, aka Rapper Raymond Jackson, is a Gary native making a name for himself locally with the help of his partner Rexius Roneus (Tyrone Kimmons).

Ray's debut album, "Back From Jupiter," is about to hit the stores with his breakthrough single "Anyone, Anywhere, Anytime." Ray-I-dah, a 12-year music veteran, defines his music as "hiphop with an alternative style."

"We're taking the concept of rap to an all new level," Ray explains. "Our music is not like regular rappers talking about

gangs and all that. Lyrically, my voice really hooks off the point. The voice really enhances the tracks Rex lays down."

Influenced by such artist as Lenny Cravitz, Ray looks and listens to musicians which are blazing the trail, rather than following other artists down it. The common misconception about rap is that anyone can do it. Ray said, that it is the love for what he does which keeps him going musically.

The whole concept to the "Back From Jupiter" release is a stellar travel of acceptance and musical innovation. Ray-I-dah and Rexius Roneus find themselves searching the cosmos for that musical unity which will bring forth "fresh and very original (music) which is about to hit Earth's musical Core."

"Back From Jupiter" also includes such tracks as the sinister "Bodacious Lyrics," the hard slammin' "Kuki Monster," and the rock/gospel track "In God's Hand."

Ray-I-dah also gave me his views on other rap artists which seem to be going more mainstream in their music these days. "Rap will always stay in the 'hood to be real, and many rap artists are going to the other side. But the problem with that is that these artists go mainstream and find it real hard to come back," said Ray-I-dah. "You have some trying to make their music universal, while others say that to keep it real, we got to keep it in the 'hood. With my music, I can take it anywhere and still remain in the realm, mainly because we know

where we come from."

Their team work is seamless it appears and it shows in their music. "I lay down tracks whenever I can," explains Rex, "and

when we both get together it's as if he already knew what I was going to write. It's good to have that kind of a partnership."

Where does Ray see himself in

the future? "Well, hopefully on top and maintaining on top," Ray said with a smile. "Working hard and continuing to stay fresh is my game."



Photo courtesy of Tymond Records

Gary native Ray-I-dah is a trying to make it big in the music biz. He has released a recording entitled 'Back from Jupiter.'

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Lakers advance to Great Lakes Regionals

RAYMOND LISKEY
Sports Editor

In the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference, a winning season will take a team only so far. With a regular season record of 31-11, the Purdue Calumet Lakers needed to do well both before and after the play-offs. Head coach Stacey Zurek knew the potential of this team. Never before had one of her volleyball teams worked so hard to become a team.

Round 1

In the first round playoff match, the Lakers defeated the Scarlet Hawks from Illinois Institute of Technology 3-0 Wednesday, Nov. 12.

The Lakers' third place conference record of 5-2 allowed them to host a first round match against longtime CCAC rival IIT. Until this season, none of Zurek's teams had never beaten IIT.

From the beginning of the match, the maturity and unity that has developed throughout the season was evident.

"They're very positive. They're playing very well together," said Zurek.

The Lakers took an early 1-0 game lead by allowing the Scarlet Hawks only four points in a 15-4 victory. IIT quickly responded and during the second and third games took the lead on several occasions. Although the Scarlet Hawks moved the ball well across the net, they could not overcome PUC's starting six. The starters played all 45 points.

The Lakers offense came from strong efforts by junior co-captain Jaime Muskin,

junior Beth Ambuul, and sophomore Patty Ryan. Muskin led the team and hit 27-of-30 with 16 kills, Ambuul hit 26-of-29 with 13 kills and Ryan hit 15-15 with 8 kills. Muskin also led the team defensively with 16 digs.

"She has very strong court sense. She waits to see where they are moving," said Zurek.

Zurek is happy with the progress and effort that the team has made.

"They've all grown in attitude. Starting in mid-October, they started getting a lot of confidence and composure," added Zurek.

The Lakers looked forward to playing conference leaders St. Xavier and St. Francis at St. Francis last Friday.

"They don't respect us. We want to prove that we can compete with them," stated Muskin.

PUC lost to both St. Xavier and St. Francis in regular season matches this year.

Round 2

The Lakers struggled through the first match Friday night, but eventually defeated St. Xavier with a 3-2 sudden death victory.

St. Xavier beat PUC earlier in the season which gave St. Xavier the second place finish in the CCAC.

When Friday arrived, Senior Tanya Popiela told Zurek that she wasn't feeling well. "Of all nights for adversity to hit, tonight Tanya got the flu. It factors in if one of the six is out," said Zurek.

Rather than highlight one or two players, Zurek complimented the entire team for stepping up and taking responsibility when needed.

"I think we're playing our best right now. Hopefully, we'll carry that into regionals."

Senior Tanya Popiela



Photo by Ray Liskey

Jamie Muskin tips the ball over two defenders from Illinois Institute of Technology in the opening round of the NAIA tournament. The Lakers beat the Scarlet Hawks, 3-0 and advanced to the regionals with a second place finish in the first round.

"We were struggling at times, but we pulled it out in the end. We believed in ourselves," said Ambuul.

"They kept each other up," added Zurek.

Round 3

In three straight games, the Lakers lost 3-0 to longtime conference champions St. Francis. St. Francis won the conference outright, which meant that even if it lost in the final match on Friday, they would have gone to its opponent's school for a second final match. St. Francis hosted the entire tournament. They had a strong bench and a home court advantage.

St. Francis scored 12 unanswered points in the first game. Although the Lakers fought back, St. Francis won 15-11. PUC lost the second game 15-10.

In between the second and third games, Zurek asked her team if they could beat their opponent. A few players offered suggestions, and they were determined to start the third game strong. The Lakers jumped

to a 10-2 lead before St. Francis adjusted to the Lakers' attacks. PUC took a second timeout when they were ahead 12-11. Before returning to the floor, they chanted together, "Let's get it back."

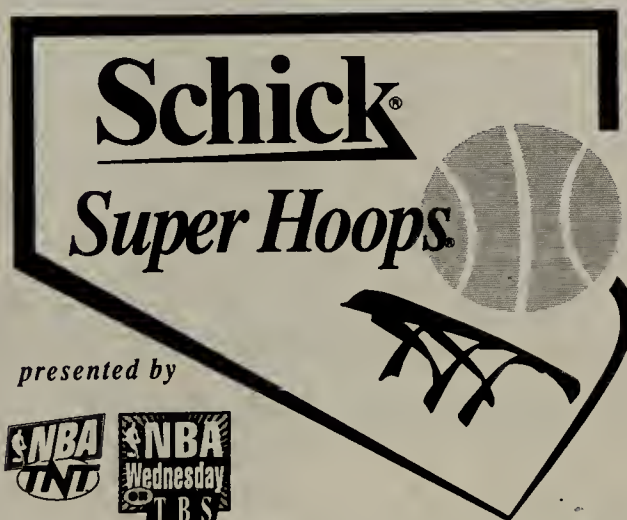
The emotional and physical drain took hold of the Lakers as they lost 15-12.

Summary

A second place finish this weekend was a great accomplishment for the 1996 Laker volleyball team. They were saddened with the loss to St. Francis, but because of their second place finish they will travel to the Great Lakes Regional Tournament Thursday, Nov. 21 at the University of Dearborn in Michigan. They may face other ranked teams whom they have seen earlier in the season. St. Francis will be there, but as the CCAC tournament winner St. Francis will receive a higher seed than the Lakers.

"I think we're playing our best right now. Hopefully, we'll carry that into regionals," remarked Popiela.

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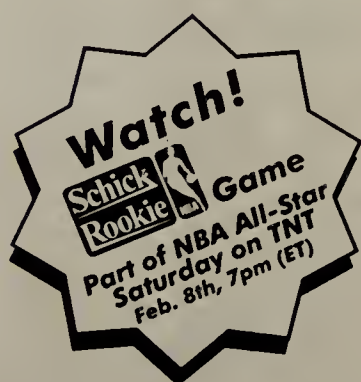
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Lady Lakers ready for season; players adjust to new team

This year's team has a hard act to follow.

CHRISTOPHER KOSOVICH
Staff writer

Last year the Lady Lakers of Purdue Calumet won the Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference and went on to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics tournament last year in Jackson, Tenn.

That extraordinary season is going to be a tough act to follow, but the Lady Lakers have been working hard in the preseason and seem prepared for the opening game Friday, Nov. 22.

As for this team, head coach Gary Hayes said, "For the biggest part you can not expect too much until they are together and playing on the floor. It is a big adjustment for the younger players."

First year PUC players agree that are major adjustments from high school to college basketball.

"At my high school I didn't run a lot and now I am running



Photo by Ray Liskey
Scott Baker is again the assistant to the Lady Lakers team.



Chronicle file photo

Coach Gary Hayes, right, leads the Lady Lakers into another season.

down the court more. There are a lot of defensive changes. I have got to be more aggressive and I have got to be patient and take my time," said freshman Nicole Mabon.

Freshman Renee Boryla added, "People are more aggressive than in high school. The court is also bigger."

The head coach of the Lady Lakers and last year's CCAC Coach of the Year Gary Hayes, has had the team hard at work in a solid preseason conditioning program for the past four weeks. Returning for the third year to assist coach Hayes in preparing the team for action is Scott Baker. Also providing assistance is last year's CCAC Player of the Year Michelle Russell. In speaking of the preseason conditioning program Hayes reported, "We have gotten into it a little more this year and it has really paid off."

With many freshman, this season will prove to be every bit as challenging as last year especially since the team has lost several key players.

"The key to success last year was team togetherness. This year's team is their own team. It remains to be seen if they really want it. Last year's team was experienced. They knew how to turn it up a notch at the end of a game. That comes with experience," said Hayes.

So far the team has shown that they have the potential to do great things.

"I really like the attitude and work ethic of this team. I really like to work with them. They are always trying to listen, improve and learn. From this work ethic I can see the team concept continue to get better," said Hayes.

The responsibility of team leadership is going to rest on the shoulders of the team captains Tabitha Beaumont and Jaime Muskin. According to Hayes, "They have experience and they know how to talk to players and will tell them when they are doing well and when they are not." Beaumont stated, "I am going to play as hard as I can so they will follow."

Men's basketball remains winless

CHRISTOPHER KOSOVICH
Staff Writer

The men's basketball team lost to Indiana Institute of Technology 70-62, Saturday.

Jarrett Lee led the Lakers in scoring with 18 points.

"They had one advantage on us and that was they were a little quicker to the ball than we were. We made their defense look very good because we were relatively impatient with what we were doing offensively," said head

coach Larry Liddle.

Team manager Chris Eaton added, "There was really no flow to the game."

This loss brings the season record to 0-3.

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